

**DEC 19 2006**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: James Earthman, et al.  
Assignee: MetroLaser, Inc.  
Title: Methods And Apparatus For Detecting And Quantifying Surface  
Characteristics And Material Conditions Using Light Scattering  
Serial No.: 10/823,385 Filing Date: April 12, 2004  
Examiner: Nguyen, Sang H Group Art Unit: 2877  
Docket No.: M-16437 US Confirmation No. 3364

Irvine, California  
December 19, 2006

Via Facsimile to (571) 273-8300

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a petition for an extension of time and the appropriate fee. In response to the Office Action dated August 23, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows.